Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

3 January 2008

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: December 31, 2007

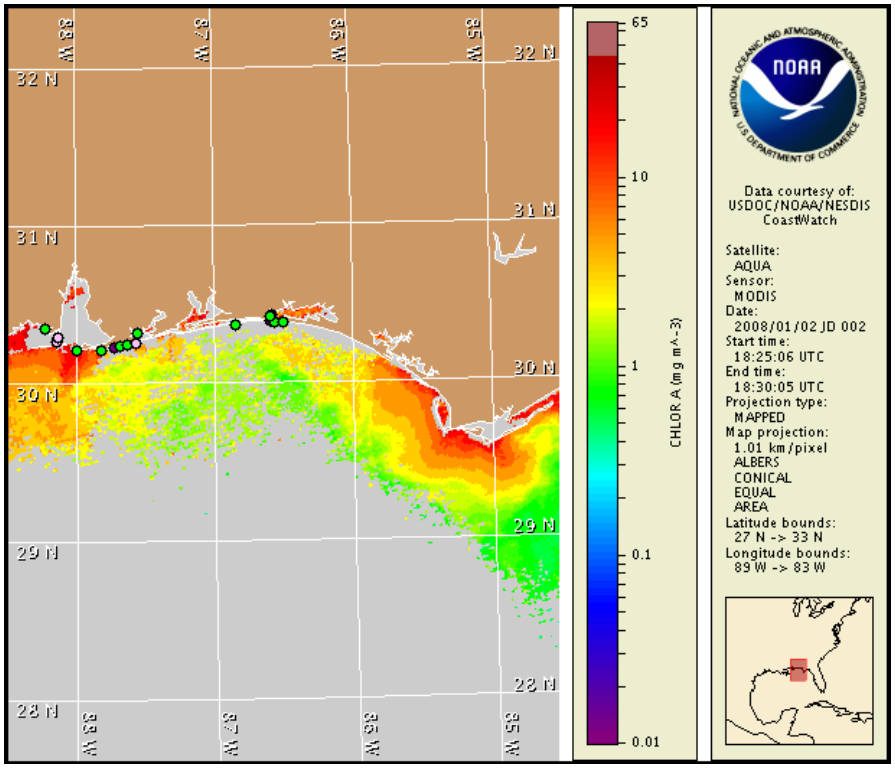
Conditions Report

NW Florida/Alabama: A harmful algal bloom persists in patches in Okaloosa County, Florida and Baldwin County, Alabama. Patchy very low impacts are possible today through Monday in bay regions of Okaloosa County, Florida and Baldwin County, Alabama. Patchy very low impacts are possible in coastal regions of Baldwin County, Alabama on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday. No other impacts are expected in northwest Florida or Alabama today through Monday, January 7.

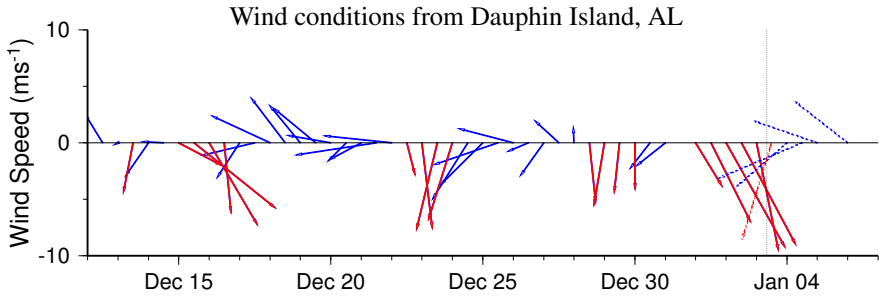
Analysis

A harmful algal bloom persists in patches in bay regions of Okaloosa County, Florida and in Baldwin County, Alabama. No new sampling information is available for the Florida Panhandle. *Karenia brevis* concentrations continue to dissipate in bay regions of eastern Baldwin County and in patches along the coast of Baldwin County, with concentrations ranging from not present to very low along the coast, and no *K. brevis* found inside the bay region (ALDH, 1/1). Please note that due to technical difficulties, SeaWiFS imagery is temporarily unavailable; MODIS imagery (1/2) is displayed on pages 1 and 2 of this bulletin. All recent satellite imagery along the western Florida Panhandle is obscured by clouds; therefore updated bloom extent analysis is not available at this time for this region. A high chlorophyll feature (>10μg/L) is visible in MODIS imagery (1/2) from the coastal Mobile and Baldwin County border extending offshore to 30°3'55''N 88°6'32''W. Sampling is recommended. Strong northerly winds today may promote westward transport of remaining harmful algae along the coast.

˜Fisher, Allen

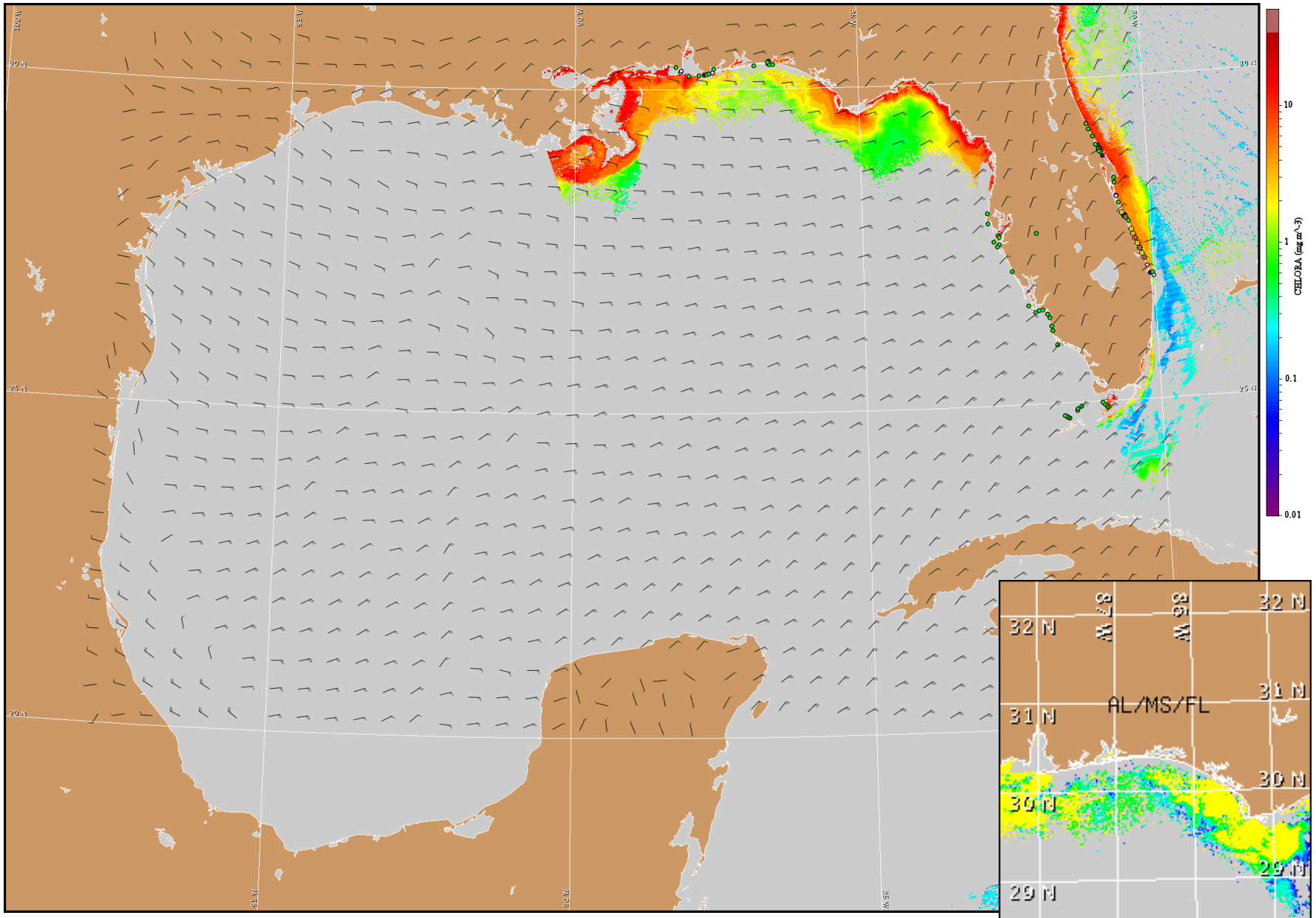


Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from December 26 to January 1 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HABFS bulletin guide:
http://www.csc.noaa.gov/crs/habf/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf



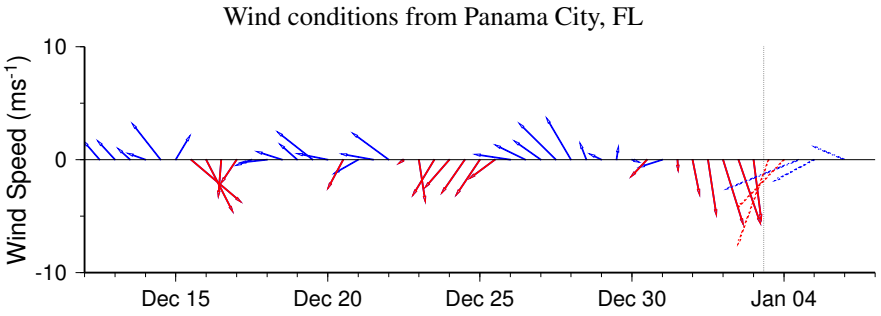
Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

NW Florida/Alabama: North winds today, becoming northeast (15-20kts, 8-10m/s). East winds Friday and Saturday, becoming southeast Saturday afternoon (15-20kts). Southeast winds Sunday and Monday (15kts, 8m/s).



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for January 4, 2008 12Z with Cell concentration sampling data from December 26 to January 1 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HABFS bulletin guide: http://www.csc.noaa.gov/crs/habf/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).


Wind conditions from Panama City, FL
Wind Speed (ms-1)
10
0
-10
Dec 15
Dec 20
Dec 25
Dec 30
Jan 04